MARLTON, NJ - On Monday, February 23rd, Congressman John Adler hosted his first Business and Economic Development Advisory Board meeting. Adler has invited Southern New Jersey's economic leaders to regularly meet with him to discuss ways to improve the region's economy and increase job growth.

"I am working with New Jersey's business leaders to find ways to bring job growth and business activity to Southern New Jersey. In Congress, my goal is to help small businesses create good jobs in our community," said Adler. "I look forward to working with our local business leaders to find ways to improve our economy."

The Business and Economic Development Advisory Board will meet on a regular basis throughout the year. Today's meeting took place at the Burlington County Chamber of Commerce.

The President of the Ocean County Chamber of Commerce, Lucy Greene, praised Congressman Adler for organizing the group, "This was one of the most informative sessions I have been in. It is obvious that the Congressman wants to make a difference and wants to accomplish great things, not only for the business community, but for the general community as well. He is a great listener and we look forward to working with him more."

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act [H.R. 1], which Adler voted for and was signed into law last week, was supported by the Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufactures (NAM). The bill contains key small business tax cuts that will help create thousands of jobs in Southern New Jersey.

Kristi Howell-Ikeda, the President Burlington County Chamber of Commerce, applauded Congressman Adler for bringing together business leaders from around the region, "We were pleased that the Congressman is willing to have an open dialogue with the business community. We look forward to working with him as we move forward."

Adler sits on the influential House Financial Services Committee, which oversees all

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components of the nation's housing and financial services sectors including banking, insurance, real estate, public and assisted housing, and securities. Adler is the only Member of the Majority Party in New Jersey's Congressional delegation to serve on the committee.